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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/542,651	07/19/2005	Ziad Badameh	RR-589 PCT/US	2372

20427 7590 04/06/2007
RODMAN RODMAN
7 SOUTH BROADWAY
WHITE PLAINS, NY 10601

EXAMINER

FRIEDHOFFER, MICHAEL A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2832

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	04/06/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.		Applicant(s)	
	10/542,651		BADARNEH	
	Examiner		Art Unit	
	Michael A. Friedhofer		2832	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>7/19/05</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In claim 1, line 2 the phrases “intended for use” and “such as” create a limitation within a limitation making the claims vague and indefinite.

In claim 1, line 3 “and/or” is an improper form of the alternative making the claim indefinite.

In claim 1, line 4 the phrase “such as” creates a limitation within a limitation making the claim indefinite.

In claim 1, line 12 the phrase “to detect stepwise position” is awkward and confusing making it unclear what is actually being claimed.

In claim 1, line 14 replace “downward” with –downwardly--.

In claim 1, line 18 “the centre” has no antecedent basis.

In claim 1, line 21 it is unclear whether this switch contact point is related to the contact points already claimed.

In claim 2, line 3 “the shape” has no antecedent basis.

In claim 3, line 4 it is unclear whether this first pair of supporting points is related to the pair already claimed.

In claim 3, line 5 after “that” insert –the--.

In claim 3, lines 5-6 it is unclear whether this second pair of supporting points is related to the pair already claimed.

In claim 6, line 3 after "device" insert --,--.

In claim 6, line 4 after "element" insert --,--.

In claim 6, line 5 "and/or" is an improper form of the alternative making the claim vague and indefinite.

In claim 7, line 2 it is unclear whether these contact springs are related to the springs already claimed.

In claim 7, line 3 "the rotary element" has no antecedent basis.

In claim 7, line 3 the phrase "and form contact with" is awkward and confusing.

In claim 8, line 4 it is unclear whether this second pair of supporting points is related to the second pair already claimed.

In claim 10, line 3 it is unclear whether these supporting points are related to the ones previously claimed or are separate and distinct points.

In claim 11, line 3 it is unclear whether this spring is related to the one previously claimed.

In claim 11, line 3 it is unclear whether this is related to the operating member already claimed.

In claim 12, line 3 "the spring" has no antecedent basis.

In claim 12, line 3 "the wire type" and "the form" have no antecedent basis.

In claim 13, line 4 the phrase "for sensing against" is awkward and confusing.

In claim 15, line 8 "the slip ring" has no antecedent basis.

In claim 16, line 3 "its shaft part" has no antecedent basis.

In claim 16, line 8 "the outer snap discs" has no antecedent basis.

In claim 17, line 7 delete "is".

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 2-18 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

3. Claim 1 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action.

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Yokoji et al, Nishimoto et al, Park et al, Sottong, Yamasaki et al, Haizima et al, Kim and Sakurai teach various multifunction switch devices.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael A. Friedhofer whose telephone number is 571-272-1992. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 6:00 - 2:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Elvin Enad can be reached on 571-272-1990. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2832

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Michael A. Friedhofer
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2832

maf